



United States Department of Agriculture

SD Wetland Compliance Action Plan

Summary Presentation to the SD
State Technical Committee
September 25, 2014



- Four main areas of concern that were addressed:
 - Need to address the oldest requests and reduce the backlog
 - The wetland consultant process should be improved
 - SD NRCS needs to provide technically correct wetland determinations
 - Improve our customer service and communication

- Some other areas of concern:
 - Wet weather patterns and impact on determinations
 - Temporary Minimal effect determinations
 - Appeal period – 30 days
 - Separation of Duties



Addressing the oldest requests and the backlog

- Send a courtesy letter this winter
- Constantly evaluate staffing
- Request detailees from other states
- Use wetland contract to collect data
- State Offsite Methods
- Seeking additional dollars to address the backlog

Improving the Consultant Process

- Hiring additional staff to work with consultant data
- Held workshop on August 13th and future ones planned
- Zimprich will have regular meetings with all of the consultants
- Discussing options and clarifying the level of data review

Technically Correct Determinations

- Compliance Specialist Position
- Additional coordination with all PPR states
- Additional training for Agency Experts
- Continued in-state quality assurance and national reviews
- Review of hydric soil delineations in published soil survey for several SD counties

Customer Service and Communications

- Series of training workshops for staff
- Clarifying the Appeals process for NRCS staff
- Zimprich emphasizing the importance of communication, professionalism, customer service and technical accuracy with all staff

Future updates to this plan

- This plan is a document we will continuously use to track progress
- Additional actions will be added as needed
- Updates will be provided at all State Technical committee meeting until plan is complete and no longer needed

Feedback

- I want your feedback!
- You can contact me personally or send your comments to Kathy Irving

- **Thank You for your involvement in this important issue!**

